



11/30/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 900-409

Date: November 30, 2001

Sir:

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF SOLAR CELLS

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract

16 pages of specification and claims (including 5 numbered claims), and

4 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

☐ Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119/120/121 based on the following foreign/US applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
Hei 11 (1999)-022274	Japan	29/01/1999
09/492,109	U.S.	27/01/2000

, respectively, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

☒ Certified copy of JA filed January 27, 2000 in prior application no. 09/492,109 filed January 27, 2000

☐ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

☒ This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☒ continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/492,109, filed January 27, 2000, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

☒ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency (3 mo. extension).

☒ The prior application is assigned to Sharp Kabushiki Kaisha.

☒ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

☐ Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

☒ Also attached: ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

1.	Inventor:	Satoshi	MI	MASHIMA	Japanese
		(first)		(last)	(citizenship)
	Residence: (city)	<u>Kitakatsuragi-gun, (state/country) Nara, Japan</u>			
	Mailing Address:	<u>85-1, Hachikawa, Taima-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun,, Nara, Japan</u>			
	(Zip Code)	<u>639-2163</u>			
2.	Inventor:	Katsuhiko	MI	NOMOTO	Japanese
		(first)		(last)	(citizenship)
	Residence: (city)	<u>Kashiwara-shi (state/country) Osaka, Japan</u>			
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	(Zip Code)	<u>582-0019</u>			

☐ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: Joseph A. Rhoads, Reg. No. 37,515

Signature: _____

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